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V CORPS HOSPITAL UNIT FULFILLS VOW TO OPEN NEW HOSPTIAL BEFORE LEAVING IRAQ

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KIRKUK, **Iraq** — After a year of planning and painting, V Corps' 67th Combat Support Hospital opened its new facility here January 4.

The 67th, part of the corps' 30th Medical Brigade, supports the 1st Infantry Division and deployed with it from Wuerzburg, Germany, in January 2004.

Brig. Gen. Stephen Mundt, the division's assistant division commander for support, said the new hospital is the result of hard work and planning. The facility will provide better force protection and more consistent electricity.



From left to right: Col. Karen Gausman, commander of the hospital at Forward Operating Base Speicher, Iraq; 67th Combat Support Hospital commander Col. Patricia Lillis-Hearn; Brig. Gen. Stephen Mundt, 1st Infantry Division assistant division commander for support; Maj. Gen. John Batiste, 1st Infantry Division commander, and Brig. Gen. Elder Granger, commander of Fort Bragg, N.C.'s 44th Medical Command, cut a ribbon opening the new 67th Combat Support Hospital at FOB Speicher

"This did not just happen," Mundt told members of the 67th following a ribboncutting ceremony of the facility. "It became a goal to make this happen. The place you worked out of was OK, but before we left we wanted a new place, and before we

January 4.

left it was going to happen. It's all about this team and being a part of the 'Big Red One' (the 1st Infantry Division)."

"You will always be a part of (the division's) Task Force Danger and of the Big Red One," Mundt said. "I thank you for all you do and bring to the fight."

